

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed on June 6, 2006. The Office Action is an election of species requirement. Indeed, the Office Action requires Applicants to elect a plethora of different species. Applicants respectfully submit that the election of species requirement is improper and an attempt by the Patent Office to unduly limit Applicants' claimed invention. In this regard, Applicants respectfully submit that it would not be an undue burden for the Patent Office to search the claimed invention without the election requirement. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the Patent Office should withdraw the election of species requirement.

Regardless, Applicants, without disclaimer and merely to ensure the Patent Office does not unduly narrow Applicants' claimed invention, have canceled all of the claims except for Claim 9. Applicants therefore submit that this renders moot the election of species requirement. Because all of the species claims have been canceled, the election of species requirement is no longer appropriate. Accordingly, Applicants do not make any such election.

Applicants note for the record that they are not disclaiming any of the subject matter. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more applications directed to the subject matter of the canceled claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 26, 2006